

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR APPLICATION

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD),
the University of Kassel and DITSL Witzenhausen organise a

SDG Alumni Project 2024

including the combined participation in

The Smarter E Europe 2024, Munich, Germany

Creating a new energy world

and the participation in

The International Campus Days at

University Weihenstephan – Triesdorf (HSWT)

and **Johannitag in the Agricultural Training Center Triesdorf**

18 - 23 June 2024 in Munich / Freising / Triesdorf, Germany

followed by the International Germany Alumni Training Seminar

Applied Solar Engineering and Smart Integration of Renewable Energy for Developing Countries

24 - 30 June 2024 in Witzenhausen, Germany

Seminar aims and content

Rural development and the creation of sustainable and productive food value chains require the availability and easy accessibility of clean water and energy. In the light of dwindling global fossil fuel reserves and global climate change, energy supply needs to seek new economically viable and ecologically sustainable ways. Remote rural areas, particularly in developing countries, are often not connected to the national supply infrastructure (power, water, gas, IT grids). Development efforts must thus rely on decentralized supply systems. Solar technology has advanced rapidly over the past decades and today offers a whole range of different appliances to efficiently, and sustainably harness solar radiation and transforming it into energy usable for different purposes. The challenge for professionals in research and development is to design and create locally adapted technological solutions for the specific energy requirements of the respective value chain.

The International Germany Alumni Training Seminar will promote exchange between the participants in the field of solar technology, facilitate international scientific cooperation and qualify the participants in the field of photovoltaic equipment, solar food processing and solar energy driven water equipment. The seminar will foster exchange of experiences, establishment of international networks between the participants, scientific discourse with regard to solar engineering, and international academic cooperation in this field. It will stimulate and promote ideas for joint research, technology development and knowledge transfer on all aspects of solar technology.

The seminar and participation in the trade fair The Smarter E Europe 2024, The Campus Days and Johannitag are offered by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of the program

SDG Alumni Projects: Knowledge and Practice for Development for Germany Alumni from the Global South
(<https://www.daad.de/en/alumni/funding-programmes-for-alumni/sdg-alumni-projects/>).

This SDG Alumni Project in the framework of The Smarter E Europe 2024 is organised and hosted by the Department of Agricultural Engineering in the Tropics and Subtropics of the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences of the University of Kassel (Prof. Dr. Oliver Hensel, www.uni-kassel.de/fb11agrar) and DITSL Witzenhausen (www.ditsl.org).

The costs will be mainly covered by funds from the DAAD provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Participants may need to provide an own financial contribution depending on the development of travel costs (air-fares).

The seminar is scheduled in the run-up to the Smarter E Europe 2024 (www.thesmartere.de), which is an important innovation hub for energy solutions, offering visitors a comprehensive overview of trends, technologies, and innovative concepts for the new energy world.

The Smarter E Europe 2024 brings together four exhibitions from 19 - 21 June 2024:

- Intersolar Europe – The world's leading exhibition for the solar industry
- ees Europe – Europe's largest and most international exhibition for batteries and energy storage systems
- Power2Drive Europe – The international exhibition for charging infrastructure and e-mobility
- EM-Power – The exhibition for intelligent energy use in industry and buildings

Seminar topics

The Alumni Training Seminar in Witzenhausen will address the following topics:

- solar technology and engineering adapted to local conditions in the participants' home countries,
- solar radiation, thermal utilization of solar energy and photovoltaic including the corresponding measurement technologies,
- solar food processing and solar drying of tropical products,
- small photovoltaic equipment
- solar energy driven pumps for drinking and irrigation water.

The seminar program will include sessions and workshops, presentations held by the participating alumni, group activities and discussions, demonstrations and field trials on solar drying of tropical products, solar water pumping and applied solar heat, and will be complemented by excursions and cultural events.

The final program in Kassel/Witzenhausen will be published once all applications have been reviewed.

It is compulsory to participate in the whole program: training seminar, trade fair and social program.

Eligibility criteria for participation

The SDG Alumni Project 2024 targets Alumni of German universities / research Institutions who:

- are citizens of countries listed on the OECD DAC list (<http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/daclist.htm>) OR
- which are funded within the framework of
 - the DAAD In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Program
 - the Centres of African Excellence or
 - the SDG Graduate Schools
- have spent at least 3 months in Germany on professional errands (study, training, teaching, research).
- currently live and work in their home countries / in the Global South.

You should have

(1) a **proven background** in academic fields related to of agricultural engineering, solar technology and engineering, political activities related to renewable / solar energy in the field of agriculture / agricultural value chains

(2) **professional experience and personal interest** in research, education, NGOs, government agencies, policy making, project development, local communities, and related stakeholders

(3) the **potential to serve as change agent (multiplier)** who will present the training seminar results in their home country, disseminate the acquired knowledge and develop ideas and projects for implementation

(4) **English language proficiency** at professional level to actively participate in the workshops and discussions.

Eligibility for repeated attendances at SDG Alumni Projects:

Participations in SDG Alumni Projects are limited to a maximum of 2 participations within 4 years. The year of participation, not the year of application, is decisive for the calculation. This rule does not apply for attendances in completely digital SDG Alumni Projects (formerly: Alumni Special Projects).

Cost coverage

- International return ticket from and to airport in Germany (lowest possible economy class airfare – up to a maximum grant of € 1,000 for Latin-America, € 1,000 for South-East Asia, € 900 for Sub-Sahara Africa and Central Asia, € 700 for Middle East and North Africa (in case the flight budget does not allow for a full flight reimbursement).
- Train ticket (2nd class): airport to Hotel in Munich/ Freising – preferably Rail & Fly
- Travel / international health insurance (max. 30 Euro) and visa costs
- Accommodation and partial living expenses during the trade fair The Smarter E Europe 2024, The International Campus Days and Johannitag in Munich / Freising / Ansbach
- Entrance fees at the trade fair in Munich
- Transport from the hotel in Freising to the other visiting places: International Campus Days of HSWT in Freising and Triesdorf, and Johannitag Triesdorf
- Transport from Triesdorf / Ansbach to the training seminar in Witzenhausen
- Accommodation and meals during the stay in Witzenhausen during the training seminar
- Transport on excursions
- Transport (Train ticket, 2nd class) from Witzenhausen to the departure airport

Please note:

University of Kassel will **reimburse the travel expenses as mentioned above** (international return ticket, train ticket, visa costs, international health insurance) **when you arrive in Witzenhausen**.

You must cover any other costs by yourself, such as transport costs between your place of residence and “your” airport, and travel costs for visa application in your country of residence.

Please keep in mind that living expenses are only covered partly during your stay in Munich and Witzenhausen. Local transport in Germany for private errands is not covered by the seminar.

Extensions of stays before The Smarter E Europe 2024 or after the SDG Alumni Project in Witzenhausen (before 18 June and after 30 June 2024) are **only possible up to 5 working days** and upon submission of a comparison of flight ticket prices before you start your travel.

Extensions beyond 5 days must be of an official nature which you **need to justify**, e.g. through visits to universities, organizations, institutions, companies etc. and with details about contact persons and a day-to-day program of activities. These extensions must be approved by DAAD before you start your travel. Decisions by DAAD are made on an individual nature based upon your justification, your program etc.

For any extension, you will have to pay any difference between the flight ticket prices for the official arrival/return date (see below) and your actual date of travel before/after your extension. You must also cover by yourself any additional travel costs, subsistence costs and other additional costs of your extension.

Furthermore, you need to organise your accommodation by yourself, and, very important, you have to make sure to have a valid health insurance for the extension days.

Travel dates

- 18 June 2024 Arrival in Munich / Freising, Germany
- 19 - 20 June 2024 Participation in the trade fair The Smarter E Europe 2024 in Munich
- 21 June 2024 International Campus Day HSWT Freising

- 22 June 2024 International Campus Day HSWT Triesdorf
- 23 June 2024 Johannitag in the Agricultural Training Center Triesdorf
- 24 June 2024 Travel from Triesdorf/ Ansbach to Witzenhausen
- 25 -29 June 2024 Training seminar in Witzenhausen
- 30 June 2024 Departure from Witzenhausen

It is essential that you participate from the first day of the trade fair The Smarter E Europe 2024 in Mönch / Freising / Triesdorf to the last day of the training seminar in Witzenhausen.

Application procedure – deadline

Applications (in English language) must include the following documents in **one single pdf file**:

- a **filled application form**: The form is available on <http://www.ditsl.org>
- a **short CV** with relevant documentation of alumni status
- an **abstract (max. 1 page) on the subject of “Solar energy for development”** with reference to the applicant's home country and his/her professional involvement in the field for solar technology (font type “Arial” 11pt, 1.5 line spacing)
- a **short description of applicants’ present duties / position and of professional goals**, indicating envisaged field of activities and duty level
- an **overview** on seminars, workshops or conferences visited in Germany after completion of studies in Germany.

Applicants should emphasize their motivation and professional / personal benefit of participation in the application form and illustrate how they plan to apply and disseminate the gained knowledge.

The PDF-file should be named ‘Last name_First name_country’ (e.g. Siegmeier_Anne_Germany)

and must be sent via email to:

solar@ditsl.org

latest by 30 November 2023, 23:59 pm (CET).

Please note: Completeness of personal data in the online application form will affect eligibility.

Applicants will be notified upon review by the selection committee and DAAD by January 2024.

For further questions, please contact Anne Siegmeier (a.siegmeier@ditsl.org).

Witzenhausen, October 2023

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